

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 14 and 15 have been amended.

Applicant respectfully notes the courtesy extended by Examiner Loha Ben during the telephone interview conducted on November 5, 2009. During the telephone interview, the Examiner acknowledged that the claims would be allowable if amended to improve antecedent. Various proposed claim amendments were discussed during the interview. The claims as amended herewith reflect the proposed amendments as suggested by the Examiner.

In particular, Applicant notes that the input aperture and the circular input aperture refer to the same aperture. Accordingly, to improve antecedent and consistency, "the input aperture" has been referred to in the claims. Also, the terms "filtering region" and "diffraction region" of the claims as previously pending refer to the same region. Thus, to improve antecedent and consistency, the term "diffraction region" has been used in the claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as currently pending in view of this Supplemental Amendment are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Since no further rejections should be outstanding in view of this Supplemental Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge that claims 1-15 are allowed, particularly in view of the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter as acknowledged during the telephone interview.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (571) 283-0720 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

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